

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request**

February 17, 2010.

The Department of Agriculture has submitted the following information collection requirement(s) to OMB for review and clearance under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104–13. Comments regarding (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology should be addressed to: Desk Officer for Agriculture, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget (OMB),
Pamela Beverly OIRA Submission@OMB.EOP.GOV or fax (202) 395–5806 and to Departmental Clearance Office, USDA, OCIO, Mail Stop 7602, Washington, DC 20250–7602. Comments regarding these information collections are best assured of having their full effect if received within 30 days of this notification. Copies of the submission(s) may be obtained by calling (202) 720–8958.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a currently valid OMB control number and the agency informs potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information that such persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Title: Organizational Information.
OMB Control Number: 0524–0026.

Summary of Collection: The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) formerly Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) has primary responsibility for providing linkages between the Federal and State components of a broad-based, national agricultural research,

extension, and higher education system. Focused on national issues, its purpose is to represent the Secretary of Agriculture and the intent of Congress by administering formula and grant funds appropriated for agricultural research, extension, and higher education. Before awards can be made, certain information is required from applicant to assure compliance with the civil rights laws and to effectively assess the potential recipient's capacity to manage Federal funds. NIFA 666, "Organizational Information."

Need and Use of the Information: NIFA will collect information to determine that applicants recommended for awards are responsible recipients of Federal funds. If the information were not collected, it would not be possible to determine that the prospective grantees are responsible.

Description of Respondents: Not-for-profit institutions; Business or other for-profit; Individuals or households; State, Local, or Tribal Government.

Number of Respondents: 150.

Frequency of Responses: Reporting: On occasion.

Total Burden Hours: 945.

Ruth Brown,

*Departmental Information Collection
Clearance Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2010–3434 Filed 2–22–10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3410–09–P

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Office of Procurement and Property Management

Title: Procurement: Maximum Workweek—Construction Schedule.

OMB Control Number: 0505–0011.

Summary of Collection: In order to obtain goods or services such as construction services, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), like other Federal agencies, has established agency contracting offices to enter into Federal contracts. These offices employ contracting officers, who solicit bids or offers for work from businesses in the private sector. When USDA contracts for construction services, both the contracting officer and the contractor needs to establish a schedule for the work. The contractor needs to ensure that his weekly work schedule will not conflict with the time during which USDA may allow him access to the work site. The contracting officer needs to know when the contractor will be working in order to schedule on-site conferences, to perform quality assurance inspections, and to perform compliance checks required to enforce the Davis Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a–276a–7). Such compliance checks are specifically required by the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) to conduct employee interviews, to check the type of work being performed, to verify the number and pay classification of workers at the site, and to verify that posters informing workers of their rights are displayed at the site (FAR 22.406–7(b)). Contracting officers put the Maximum Workweek—Construction Schedule clause in solicitations and contracts for construction when the contractor's access to the work site may be restricted to certain times of the day or week.